UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

CHRISTOPHER C.,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 2:24-cv-3641 Judge Edmund A. Sargus, Jr. Magistrate Judge Elizabeth P. Deavers

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

Defendant.

ORDER

This matter is before the Court on the parties' Joint Motion for an Award of Attorneys' Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412. (ECF No. 12.) The Parties stipulated to an award of attorney's fees in connection with the resolution of this case. (*Id.*)

The Court **GRANTS** the parties' Joint Motion. (ECF No. 12.) The Commissioner shall pay Plaintiff's attorney's fees in the amount of \$4,375.00 and litigation costs of \$0.00. After the Court enters this award, counsel for the Parties shall verify whether Plaintiff owes a pre-existing debt to the United States subject to offset, consistent with *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010). If no such pre-existing debt exists, Defendant shall pay the EAJA award directly to Plaintiff's counsel pursuant to the EAJA assignment signed by Plaintiff.

The case remains closed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

<u>2/27/2025</u> DATE s/Edmund A. Sargus, Jr.
EDMUND A. SARGUS, JR.
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE